

REMARKS

The foregoing amendment cancels Claims 7 to 9, 15 and 16, which were directed to the Species elected for prosecution in parent Application No. 09/337,549. The remaining claims in this divisional application, namely Claims 1 to 6, 10 to 14, 17 and 18, are believed to be directed to the non-elected Species from parent Application No. 09/337,549. Entry of the amendment and passage to issue are respectfully requested.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449.

U.S. Patent No. 4,488,245
U.S. Patent No. 4,928,167
U.S. Patent No. 5,467,196
U.S. Patent No. 5,731,818
U.S. Patent No. 5,748,773
U.S. Patent No. 5,930,009
U.S. Patent No. 6,463,172
Japan 60-57594

U.S. Patent No. 6,463,172 issued from Application No. 09/255,866, which was cited in parent Application No. 09/337,549. The other references listed above were also cited in parent U.S. Patent Application No. 09/337,549, and might be deemed pertinent for the reasons given therein. The Examiner is respectfully directed to the Patent and Trademark Office files for review of these documents. See MPEP § 609. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of the attached form PTO-1449.

CONCLUSION

Applicants undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicants

Registration No. 50,957

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-2200
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

CA_MAIN 67142 v 1